

EVALUATION OF ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS IN INDONESIA, 1981 - 1995

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ABSTRAK

EVALUASI OBAT ANTIMALARIA DI INDONESIA, 1981 - 1995

Telah dilakukan evaluasi obat-obat antimalaria in-vitro dan in-vivo untuk menentukan pola resistensi dan memanfaatkan data ini untuk melakukan sistem pengamatan yang efektif. Semua penelitian pengobatan dan pencegahan malaria di lapangan dan rumah sakit dalam kurun waktu 1981 - 1995 ditelaah.

Pertama kali kasus resistensi *P. falciparum* terhadap klorokuin ditemukan di Kalimantan Timur pada tahun 1973, dan telah menyebar ke seluruh (27) propinsi Indonesia dengan derajat RI - RIII. Pada saat ini, resistensi RIII telah didapatkan di 20 propinsi, sedangkan pada tahun 1981-1985 hanya di 4 propinsi. Kasus malaria vivaks resisten klorokuin dilaporkan pertama kali dari Sumatera Utara (*P. Nias*) pada tahun 1991, dan kemudian ditemukan di Irian Jaya (41%), Sumatera Utara (13%), Nusa Tenggara Timur (8%), Sulawesi Utara (2%) dan Jakarta (laporan kasus yang didapatkan dari transfusi darah). Malaria falsiparum yang tercatat resisten sulfadoksin-pirimetamin didapatkan di 11 propinsi dengan derajat RI - RII. *P. falciparum* resisten in-vitro juga didapatkan terhadap kina (6 propinsi), meflokuin (5 propinsi) dan amodiakuin (4 propinsi). Beberapa obat antimalaria baru (meflokuin, halofantrin dan derivat artemisinin) telah diteliti dan ternyata efektif untuk pengobatan malaria tanpa komplikasi. Penelitian pencegahan menunjukkan angka pencegahan untuk klorokuin 41-92%, sulfadoksin- pirimetamin 98%, primakuin 89-92%, doksisisiklin 99% dan meflokuin 100 %. Efek samping obat-obat antimalaria tersebut umumnya ringan.

Di Indonesia, penyebaran malaria falsiparum resisten klorokuin RIII dan malaria falsiparum resisten multidrug merupakan masalah kesehatan masyarakat yang serius dan tantangan dalam pengobatan. Demikian pula kehadiran malaria vivaks resisten klorokuin menimbulkan masalah baru yang lain. Oleh sebab itu obat-obat antimalaria yang didistribusikan sebaiknya dikemas per paket untuk dosis obat pengobatan yang lengkap dengan keterangan cara minum obat yang jelas. Dengan demikian dapat dicegah pemberian dosis pengobatan yang tidak cukup dan berkembangnya resistensi obat. Selama obat antimalaria baru belum tersedia di Indonesia, perlu dilakukan penelitian perbaikan efikasi obat antimalaria yang sudah ada. Obat pencegahan alternatif yang aman dan efektif untuk anak-anak, ibu hamil dan menyusui juga perlu diteliti.

INTRODUCTION

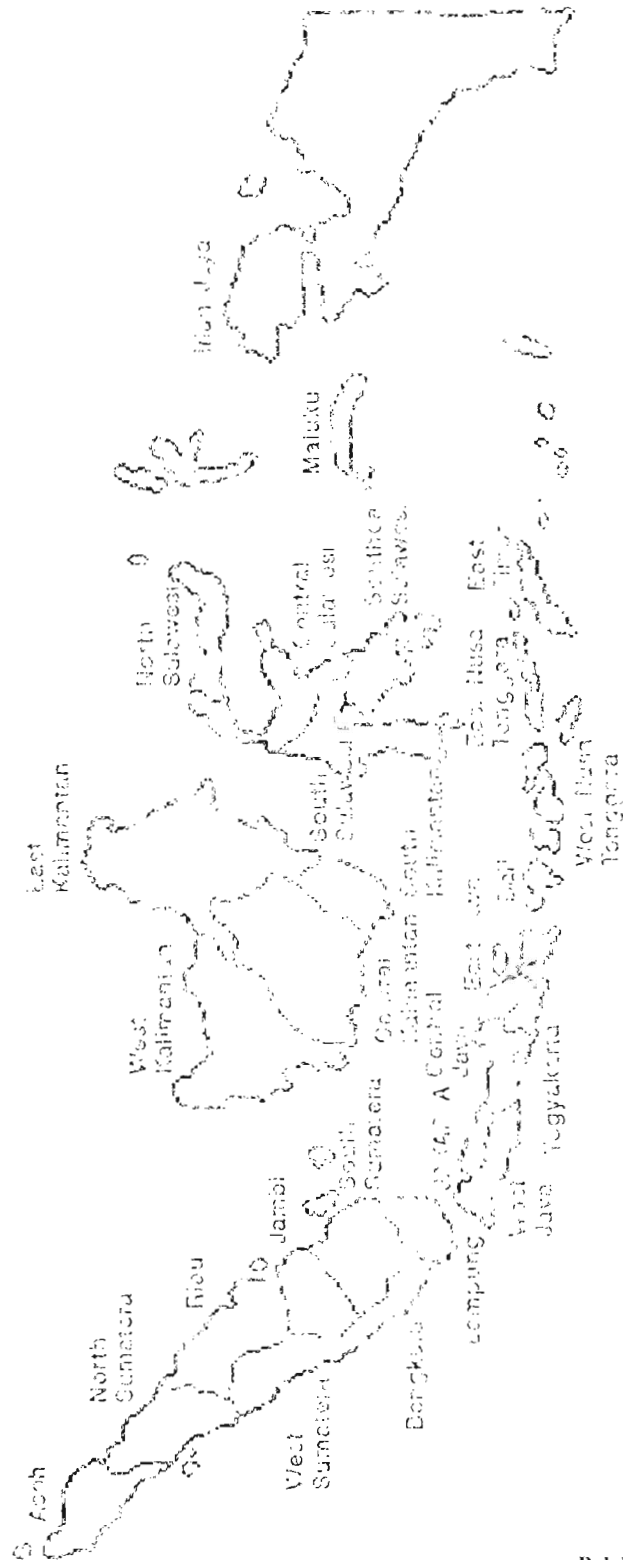
Indonesia is an archipelago consisting of six main islands and 13,767

smaller islands. There are 27 provinces, 241 districts and 67,033 villages with a total population of 195.3 million in 1994 (Figure 1)¹.

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Malaria remains a major public health problem, particularly outside of Java-Bali, with province-wide *Parasite Rates* of 4.1 - 5.2% and *Slide Positivity Rates* of 29.2 - 44.3% during the period 1989 to 1993^{2,3}.

Since malaria vaccine is not available, management of the disease is the most important activity to control malaria. To support disease management, the Indonesian Ministry of Health has recommended rational malaria treatment policy that is based on the national malaria control programme.

Chloroquine is the standard antimalarial drug for chemoprophylaxis, clinical malaria treatment and the blood schizonticide component of radical treatment. Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine and quinine are used as alternative antimalarial drugs for radical treatment of falciparum malaria in chloroquine resistant areas. Parenteral quinine is a life-saving antimalarial drug for severe and complicated malaria. Primaquine is a supplement to standard antimalarial drugs for radical treatment. Supportive therapy is given depending on clinical manifestations of organ dysfunction⁴.

Several new antimalarial drugs, mefloquine, halofantrine and artemisinin derivatives have been studied for the treatment of falciparum malaria, vivax malaria and severe or complicated malaria, in preparation for providing alternative antimalarial drugs.

Treatment failure may be due to the increasing problem of drug resistance. Resistance to antimalarial drugs, especially chloroquine, has become a serious problem in case management throughout Indonesia. Collection of baseline data and an appropriate monitoring system for drug efficacy and resistance are required for reassessment and revision of national guidelines for malaria treatment.

All evaluations of antimalarial drugs during the period 1981 to 1995 in Indonesia are reviewed in this paper to determine the pattern of drug resistance and to create a data base for an effective monitoring system and revise treatment guidelines.

DEFINITION AND ASSESSMENT OF DRUG RESISTANCE

In malaria, drug resistance is defined as the ability of a parasite strain to survive and/or to multiply despite the administration and absorption of a drug given in doses equal to or higher than those usually recommended but within the limits of tolerance of the subjects⁵. This definition is commonly applied to the resistance of *Plasmodium falciparum* to the blood schizontocides. It has been extended to other species of malaria parasites such as *P. vivax*.

The susceptibility of *P. falciparum* to chloroquine and other antimalarial drugs was assessed by *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* sensitivity testing. Previously, the macrotest was used for *in-vitro* sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* to chloroquine. Since 1984, the microtest has replaced the macrotest for testing chloroquine, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine, quinine, amodiaquine and mefloquine. Interpretation was made according to the WHO guideline (Table 1)^{6,7}.

In most cases, field tests (28 days) were performed for *in-vivo* sensitivity testing. The resistance grading system is based on the response to normally recommended doses of chloroquine (25 mg base/kg bw in three days). This grading is also used for other blood schizontocides. The response of the parasites to blood schizontocides ranges from S to RIII (Table 2)⁵.

Table 1. Concentration of several blood schizontocidal drugs indicating *in-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistance^{6,7}.

Test drug	Schizonts still grow at
Chloroquine	≥ 8 pmol
Sulfadoxine/pyrimethamine	$\geq 1000 / 12.5$ pmol
Quinine	≥ 256 pmol
Amodiaquine	≥ 4 pmol
Mefloquine	≥ 64 pmol

Table 2. Grading of *in-vivo* resistance of asexual parasites of *P. falciparum* to blood schizontocidal drugs⁵.

Response	Recommended symbol	Evidence
Sensitive	S	Clearance of asexual parasitaemia within 7 days of initiation of treatment, without subsequent recrudescence.
Resistance	RI	Clearance of asexual parasitaemia as in sensitivity, followed by recrudescence within 28 days (42 days for SP and mefloquine).
	RII	Marked reduction (75 percent or more) of asexual parasitaemia within 48 hours, but no clearance by day 7.
	RIII	No marked reduction of parasitaemia (less than 75 percent) or an increase of asexual parasitaemia in 48 hours.

The blood concentration of chloroquine adequate for treatment has not yet been firmly established. Currently, chloroquine resistance to

P. vivax is based on the whole blood *Minimal Effective Concentration* (MEC) of chloroquine. A viable asexual parasitaemia of *P. vivax* with

≥ 100 ng/ml chloroquine plus desethyl-chloroquine in whole blood demonstrates resistance⁸.

DRUG SENSITIVITY MONITORING SYSTEM

Since 1979, *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* drug sensitivity assays have been conducted in the major foci of suspected chloroquine resistance areas by the Subdirector of Malaria Control and by Local Health Authorities. Data obtained serve as an early warning of emerging problem of drug failure. The results of other field and clinical studies undertaken by the National Institute of Health Research and Development, by the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Indonesia and by the Naval Medical Research Unit 2 Jakarta have been very useful in supporting or clarifying preliminary reports and in early detection of treatment failures.

In recent years, studies of alternative drugs such as mefloquine, halofantrine and artemisinin derivatives have been performed. Studies on new antimalarial drugs regimens, such as chloroquine plus doxycycline, are being carried out.

EMERGENCE AND SPREADING OF DRUG RESISTANCE

The first evidence of *P. falciparum* resistant to 4-amino-quinolines was noted from Venezuela (1959) and Columbia (1960), in South America⁹. The first case reports of recurrence of *P. vivax* parasitaemia after various doses of chloroquine were reported from Papua New Guinea (1989-1992)¹⁰⁻¹⁴. It was then

reported from other countries including Indonesia.

CHLOROQUINE RESISTANCE

According to the policy of the Indonesia Ministry of Health, chloroquine (4-quinoline-amino group) is used as first line treatment. The first case of chloroquine resistant *P. falciparum* infection was reported from Kutai - East Kalimantan in 1973¹⁵. Thereafter (1974-1979) more cases have been recorded from East Kalimantan and Irian Jaya¹⁵⁻²⁷.

During 1981 - 1995, *in-vitro* sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* to chloroquine had been performed in 24 provinces, except in West Sumatera, South Sumatera and DI-Yogyakarta provinces (Annex 3). All of the 24 provinces had resistant cases, although resistant cases from DKI-Jakarta and Bali were imported cases. The number of samples tested per province ranged from 3 to 183 isolates in 1981-1985, 1 to 62 isolates in 1986-1990, and 1 to 159 isolates in 1991-1995. The percentage of resistant cases in 1981-1985, 1986-1990 and 1991- 1995 were 11 - 100 %, 11 - 100 %, and 23 - 100 %, respectively^{16,28-42} (Table 3).

Twenty five of the 27 provinces (except Central Kalimantan and Bali) carried out *in-vivo* sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* to chloroquine. Only West Java has not reported any resistant cases (Table 4). The numbers of patients examined per province in 1981-1985, 1986-1990 and 1991-1995 were 1 - 26 cases, 2 - 105 cases, and 1 -214 cases, respectively. Of those cases, 4 - 100 %, 10 - 100 %, and 12 - 100 % were resistance cases at level of RI - RIII. Currently, RI, RII and RIII resistance affects 19, 21 and 20 provinces compared to 8, 6 and 4 provinces in 1981-1985, and 13, 17 and 14 in 1986-1990^{16,28,30,38-50} (Table 5).

Table 3. *In-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistant to chloroquine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{16,28-42}.

	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
Number of provinces tested (%)*	22 (81)	13 (48)	6 (22)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	3 - 183	1 - 152	1 - 159
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	22 (100)	13 (100)	5 (83)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	11 - 100	11 - 100	23 - 100
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	22 (81)	24 (89)	24 (89)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

Table 4. Percentage of *P. falciparum* resistant to chloroquine in Indonesia, 1981 -1995^{16,28,30,38-50}.

No.	Provinces	<i>In-vitro</i>			<i>In-vivo</i>				
		81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95	81 - 85		86 - 90		91 - 95
1.	Aceh	71 (39/55)	73 (8/11)		0 (0/1)		27 (3/11)	2 RII 1 RIII	0 (0/1)
2.	North Sumatra	69 (9/13)			11 (1/9)	1 RII	80 (4/5)	4 RII	61 (17/28) 12 RI 3 RII 2 RIII
3.	Riau	27 (4/15)	78 (14/18)	100 (1/1)	0 (0/2)		33 (3/9)	1 RII 2 RIII	75 (3/4) 2 RII 1 RIII
4.	West Sumatra						12 (1/8)	1 RI	67 (4/6) 4 RIII
5.	Bengkulu		100 (7/1)	0 (0/1)			67 (10/15)	4 RI 4 RII 2 RII	12 (4/33) 2 RI 1 RII 1 RIII
6.	Jambi		11 (1/9)				45 (9/20)	2 RI 1 RII 6 RIII	
7.	South Sumatra				100 (2/2)	2 RI	50 (2/4)	2 RII	
8.	Lampung	88 (7/8)			100 (2/2)	2 RI	65 (20/31)	2 RI 13 RII 5 RII	
9.	West Java	59 (13/22)							0 (0/1)
10.	DKI-Jakarta	60 (6/10)	100 (1/1)		62 (13/21)	12 RI 1 RIII	100 (2/2)	2 RI	

No.	Province	<i>In-vitro</i>			<i>In-vivo</i>					
		81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
11.	Central Java	51 (93/183)	24 (12/50)		60 (12/20)	10 RI 2 RII	35 (37/105)	13 RI 14 RII 10 RIII	48 (13/27)	1 RI 7 RII 5 RIII
12.	D.I Yogyakarta								57 (12/21)	1 RI 5 RII 6 RIII
13.	East Java	26 (18/70)			33 (4/12)	1 RI 1 RII 2 RIII			0 (0/1)	
14.	West Kalimantan	27 (4/15)					0 (0/8)		12 (1/8)	1 RI
15.	Central Kalimantan	25 (1/4)								
16.	South Kalimantan	11 (3/27)					33 (1/3)	1 RII		
17.	East Kalimantan	67 (8/12)	66 (41/62)	61 (41/67)	67 (2/3)	1 RI 1 RII	50 (1/2)	1 RI		
18.	Bali	67 (4/6)								
19.	West Nusa Tenggara	48 (13/27)	40 (2/5)				71 (10/14)	2 RI 4 RII 4 RIII	13 (6/45)	2 RI 3 RII 1 RIII
20.	East Nusa Tenggara	73 (47/64)	50 (1/2)		24 (5/21)	5 RII	0 (0/8)		50 (27/54)	18 RI 3 RII 6 RIII
21.	East Timor	100 (9/9)	78 (118/152)		21 (4/19)	1 RI 2 RII 1 RIII	25 (17/68)	1 RI 4 RII 12 RIII	100 (1/1)	1 RI
22.	North Sulawesi	67 (6/9)	50 (6/12)	23 (9/39)	25 (1/4)	1 RIII	44 (16/36)	4 RI 7 RII 5 RIII	31 (16/52)	9 RI 5 RII 2 RIII
23.	Central Sulawesi	33 (1/3)		25 (1/4)			67 (4/6)	3 RI 1 RIII	16 (3/19)	1 RII 2 RIII
24.	South Sulawesi	35 (17/48)	100 (10/10)		4 (1/26)	1 RI	33 (18/55)	1 RI 15 RII 2 RIII	56 (10/18)	3 RI 5 RII 2 RIII
25.	South East Sulawesi	67 (2/3)					10 (1/10)	1 RIII	56 (18/32)	1 RI 14 RII 3 RIII
26.	Maluku	73 (8/11)			0 (0/2)				35 (8/23)	2 RI 6 RIII
27.	Irian Jaya	29 (2/7)	84 (27/32)	82 (130/159)			53 (51/96)	30 RI 21 RIII	71 (151/214)	67 RI 61 RII 23 RIII

Table 5. *In-vivo* *P. falciparum* resistant to chloroquine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{16,28,30,38-50}.

	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
Number of provinces tested (%)*	14 (52)	21 (78)	18 (67)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	1 - 26	2 - 105	1 - 214
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	11 (79)	19 (90)	16 (89)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	4 - 100	10 - 100	12 - 100
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	11 (41)	20 (74)	24 (89)
Number of provinces reporting RI resistance (%)***	8 (73)	12 (63)	12 (75)
Percentage of RI resistance cases (range)	25 - 100	6 - 100	6 - 100
Cumulative number of provinces reporting RI resistance (%)*	8 (30)	13 (48)	19 (70)
Number of provinces reporting RII resistance (%)***	6 (55)	14 (74)	13 (81)
Percentage of RII resistance cases (range)	17 - 100	11 - 100	19 - 78
Cumulative number of provinces reporting RII resistance (%)*	6 (22)	17 (63)	21 (78)
Number of provinces reporting RIII resistance (%)***	4 (36)	13 (68)	14 (87)
Percentage of RIII resistance cases (range)	8 - 100	11 - 100	6 - 100
Cumulative number of provinces reporting RIII resistance (%)*	4 (15)	14 (52)	20 (74)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested

*** percent by number of provinces reporting resistance.

Combining *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* results, the overall number of provinces reporting *P. falciparum* resistance to chloroquine was 27 provinces. In 3 provinces (West Java, Central Kalimantan and Bali) only *in-vitro* resistance was found, and another 3 provinces (West Sumatera, South Sumatera and DI-Yogyakarta) only reported *in-vivo* resistance. The other 21 provinces reported both *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* resistance. Almost all levels of resistance were present throughout Indonesia.

The first case of chloroquine resistant *P. vivax* was reported from Nias island - North

Sumatera in 1991³¹. In the last five years (1991-1995), documented chloroquine resistant vivax malaria was present in 5 of 7 provinces tested. The number of patients examined per province was 1-126. The resistant cases were 41 % in Irian Jaya (Arso, Oksibil, Nabire and Timika), 13 % in North Sumatera (Nias), 8 % in East Nusa Tenggara (Sikka) and 2 % in North Sulawesi (Tomohon and Lembe). Another resistant case acquired by blood transfusion was reported from DKI- Jakarta. No resistant cases were found in Central Java and West Nusa Tenggara. Most of the resistant cases were RI resistance (Table 6, and Table 7)^{48,50-4}.

Table 6. Percentage of *P. vivax* resistant to chloroquine in Indonesia, 1991 -1995^{48,50-4}.

No.	Province	91 - 95	Study's site (year)
1.	North Sumatra	13 (3/23)	Nias (1995)
2.	DKI-Jakarta	100 (1/1)	Jakarta (transfusion vivax malaria (1993)
3.	D.I-Yogyakarta	0 (0/11)	Kokap (1994)
4.	West Nusa Tenggara	0 (0/20)	Sekotong (1995)
5.	East Nusa Tenggara	8 (2/16)	Sikka (1995)
6.	North Sulawesi	2 (1/53)	Tomohon (1993) Lembe (1995)
7.	Irian Jaya	41 (52/126)	Arso (1991, 1993) Oksibil (1994) Nabire (1995) Timika (1995)

Table 7. *In-vivo P. vivax* resistant to chloroquine in Indonesia, 1991 - 1995^{48,50-4}.

	91 - 95
Number of provinces tested (%)*	7 (26)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	1 - 126
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	5 (71)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	2 - 41
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	5 (19)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

SULFADOXINE-PYRIMETHAMINE RESISTANCE

Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine combination is recommended as a second line drug. Since 1979, *P. falciparum* resistant to this drug has been reported²⁵. Thereafter, only few studies have been performed.

During 1981-1995, *in-vitro* sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* to sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine was performed in 13 provinces. Eleven provinces reported resistance: Aceh (67 %), North Sumatera (100 %), Riau (80 %), and Lampung (100 %) in 1981-1985; Central Java (22 and 71 %) in 1981-1985 and 1986-1990; East Kalimantan (85 and 100 %) in 1986-1990 and 1991-1995; East Timor (33 %) in 1986-1990; North Sulawesi (60 %) and Central Sulawesi (50 %) in 1991-1995; South Sulawesi (58 %) in 1981-1985; and Irian Jaya (81 and 82 %) in 1986-1990 and 1991-1995. The other provinces, Bengkulu and DKI-Jakarta, had not reported resistance (Annex 5). The number of samples tested per provinces in 1981-1985, 1986-1990, and 1991-1995 ranged from 2 to 38 isolates, 1 and 29 isolates, and 1 and 77 isolates, respectively. The percentage of those resistant cases were 58-100 %, 22-100 % and 50-85 %, respectively (Table 8)^{16,31,34-9,41-2,45,55-6}.

In-vivo sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* to sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine was carried out in 9 provinces (Aceh, North Sumatera, Riau, Lampung, Central Java, East Timor, South Sulawesi, South-East Sulawesi and Irian Jaya) in 1981-1985. The number of patients examined per provinces was 1 - 119. Four provinces: Central Java, East Timor, South Sulawesi and Irian Jaya reported resistances of, respectively, 12 % (14/119) (RI-RII), 100 % (1/1) (RI), 2 % (1/62) (RII), and 2 % (1/41) (RII) (Table 9 and Table 10)^{16,44,55,57-9}.

Combining *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* results, the total number of provinces reporting *P. falciparum* resistance to sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine was 11 out of the 14 provinces where tests were performed. Seven provinces only reported resistance by *in-vitro* test and the other 4 provinces reported resistance by both *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* tests at level of RI - RII. Of the 3 provinces reporting no resistance, 2 provinces (Bengkulu and DKI-Jakarta) only conducted *in-vitro* sensitivity test and 1 province (Southeast Sulawesi) only *in-vivo* sensitivity test.

QUININE RESISTANCE

Quinine is a life-saving antimalarial for malaria treatment. Until recently, there has been no reported *in-vivo* quinine resistance by *falciparum* malaria. However, several isolates have shown *in-vitro* resistance.

In-vitro sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* to quinine was performed during 1981-1985, 1986-1990 and 1991-1995 in 4, 8 and 6 provinces, with the number of isolates tested per province ranging from 1 to 17, 1 to 31, and 1 to 132 isolates. *In-vitro* resistance was reported from West Java (one case in 1981-1985), Central Java (one case in 1981-1985), East Kalimantan (3 % or 2/60 in 1991-1995), East Nusa Tenggara (one case in 1981-1985), Central Sulawesi (25 % or 1/4 in 1991-1995) and Irian Jaya (29 % or 5/17 in 1981-1985). No resistance isolates were found in Riau, Bengkulu, DKI-Jakarta, East Timor, North Sulawesi, and South Sulawesi (Table 11 and Table 12)^{16,34-9,41-2,45,60-1}.

Table 8. *In-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistant to sulfadoxine pyrimethamine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{16,31,34-9,41-2,45,55-6}.

	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
Number of provinces tested (%)*	6 (22)	5 (19)	6 (22)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	2 - 38	1 - 29	1 - 77
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	6 (100)	4 (80)	4 (67)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	58 - 100	22 - 100	50 - 85
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	6 (22)	9 (33)	11 (41)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

Table 9. Percentage of *P. falciparum* resistant to sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{16,44,55,57-9}.

No.	Province	<i>In-vitro</i>			<i>In-vivo</i>	
		81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95	81 - 85	
1.	Aceh	67 (14/21)			0 (0/32)	
2.	North Sumatra	100 (2/2)			0 (0/6)	
3.	Riau	80 (12/15)		0 (0/1)	0 (0/36)	
4.	Bengkulu			0 (0/1)		
5.	Lampung	100 (3/3)		0 (0/3)		
6.	DKI - Jakarta		0 (0/1)			
7.	Central Java	71 (27/38)	22 (2/9)		12 (14/119)	3 RI 11 RII
8.	East Kalimantan		100 (29/29)	85 (45/53)		
9.	East Timor		27 (3/11)		100 (1/1)	1 RI
10.	North Sulawesi			60 (12/20)		
11.	Central Sulawesi			50 (1/2)		
12.	South Sulawesi	58 (11/19)			2 (1/62)	1 RII
13.	Southeast Sulawesi				0 (0/2)	
14.	Irian Jaya		82 (9/11)	81 (62/77)	2 (1/41)	1 RII

Tabel 10. *In-vivo P. falciparum* resistant to sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{16,44,55,57-9}.

	81 - 85
Number of provinces tested (%)*	9 (33)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	1 - 119
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	4 (44)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	2 - 100
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	4 (15)
Number of provinces reporting RI resistance (%)***	2 (50)
Percentage of RI resistance cases (range)	21 - 100
Cumulative number of provinces reporting RI resistance (%)*	2 (7)
Number of provinces reporting RII resistance (%)***	3 (75)
Percentage of RII resistance cases (range)	79 - 100
Cumulative number of provinces reporting RII resistance (%)*	3 (11)
Number of provinces reporting RIII resistance (%)***	0
Percentage of RIII resistance cases (range)	0
Cumulative number of provinces reporting RIII resistance (%)*	0

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested

*** percent by number of provinces reporting resistance.

Of the 12 provinces tested, only 6 provinces (West Java, Central Java, East Kalimantan, East Nusa Tenggara, Central Sulawesi and Irian Jaya) presented *in-vitro P. falciparum* resistance to quinine. After 1981-1985, 3 provinces which have reported *in-vitro* resistance (West Java, Central Java and Irian Jaya) no longer reported resistance cases. In East Kalimantan where no resistance was present in 1986-1990, *in-vitro* resistance was reported in 1991-1995.

SENSITIVITY OF OTHER BLOOD SCHIZONTOCIDES

Amodiaquine resistance

Amodiaquine is a 4 amino-quinoline antimalarial drug. This drug should be at least as effective as chloroquine. In Indonesia, amodiaquine is not available and has never been used. However, several *in-vitro P. falciparum* sensitivity tests to this drug have been performed.

Table 11. Percentage of *in-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistant to quinine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{1,6,34-9,41-2,45,60-1}.

No.	Province	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
1.	Riau		0 (0/8)	0 (0/1)
2.	Bengkulu			0 (0/1)
3.	West Java	100 (1/1)	0 (0/2)	
4.	DKI-Jakarta		0 (0/1)	
5.	Central Java	100 (1/1)	0 (0/6)	
6.	East Kalimantan		0 (0/31)	3 (2/60)
7.	East Nusa Tenggara	100 (1/1)		
8.	East Timor		0 (0/8)	
9.	North Sulawesi			0 (0/37)
10.	Central Sulawesi			25 (1/4)
11.	South Sulawesi		0 (0/6)	
12.	Irian Jaya	29 (5/17)	0 (0/10)	0 (0/132)

Table 12. *In-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistant to quinine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{1,6,34-9,41-2,45,60-1}.

	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
Number of provinces tested (%)*	4 (15)	8 (30)	6 (22)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	1 - 17	1 - 31	1 - 132
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	4 (100)	0	2 (33)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	29 - 100	-	3 - 25
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	4 (15)	4 (15)	6 (22)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

In 1981-1985, only Irian Jaya was tested (5 samples). However in 1986-1990, 5 provinces (DKI- Jakarta, East Kalimantan, East Timor, South Sulawesi and Irian Jaya) were tested with the number of samples tested ranging from 1 - 27. Only one province (East Kalimantan) was tested (57 samples) in 1991-1996.

Of the 5 provinces tested, 4 provinces (East Kalimantan, East Timor, South Sulawesi and Irian Jaya) had resistance to amodiaquine

(12 - 100 %). However, previously (1981-1985), no amodiaquine resistance was found in Irian Jaya (Table 13 and Table 14)^{16,34-5,42,61}.

Mefloquine resistance

Mefloquine, a synthetic 4-quinoline methanol, is a relatively new antimalarial drug. This drug has not yet been registered in Indonesia. Since 1982, several *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* *P. falciparum* sensitivity to this drug has been performed.

Table 13. Percentage of *in-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistant to amodiaquine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{16,34-5,42,61}.

No.	Province	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
1.	DKI-Jakarta		0 (0/1)	
2.	East Kalimantan		100 (27/27)	100 (57/57)
3.	East Timor		12 (1/8)	
4.	South Sulawesi		100 (9/9)	
5.	Irian Jaya	0 (0/5)	100 (8/8)	

Table 14. *In-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistant to amodiaquine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{16,34-5,42,61}.

	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
Number of provinces tested (%)*	1 (4)	5 (19)	1 (4)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	5	1 - 27	57
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	0	4 (80)	1 (100)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	-	12 - 100	100
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	0	4 (15)	4 (15)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

In-vitro sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* to mefloquine was run in 10, 13 and 6 provinces, with the number of samples tested ranging from 2 to 35, 1 to 60, and 1 to 145, in 1981-1985, 1986-1990 and 1991-1995. There were 2 (Central Java and Irian Jaya), 3 (East Nusa Tenggara, East Timor and Irian Jaya) and 1 (East Kalimantan) provinces with respectively 12-20%, 2-17% and 3% resistant cases in 1981-1985, 1986-1990 and 1991-1995 (Table 15 and Table 16)^{16,32,34-9,42,45,57,60-2}.

In-vivo sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* to mefloquine (15 mg/kg bw, single dose) was performed in 2 (Aceh and East Kalimantan) and 1 (East Kalimantan) provinces. The numbers of patients examined were respectively 19 and 23, and 14 in 1986-1990 and 1991-1995. No resistant cases were found in these tests (Table 15 and Table 17)^{32,62-3}.

Combining *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* results, of the 18 provinces tested, 5 provinces (Central

Table 15. Percentage of *P. falciparum* resistant to mefloquine in Indonesia, 1981 -1995^{16,32,34-9,42,45,57,60-3}

No.	Province	<i>In-vitro</i>			<i>In-vivo</i>		
		81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
1.	Aceh	0 (0/11)	0 (0/8)			0 (0/19)	
2.	North Sumatra	0 (0/6)					
3.	Riau	0 (0/9)	0 (0/8)	0 (0/1)			
4.	Bengkulu		0 (0/7)	0 (0/1)			
5.	Jambi		0 (0/1)				
6.	West Java	0 (0/6)					
7.	DKI-Jakarta		0 (0/1)				
8.	Central Java	12 (1/8)	0 (0/28)				
9.	East Java	0 (0/6)					
10.	Central Kalimantan	0 (0/9)					
11.	East Kalimantan		0 (0/43)	3 (1/37)		0 (0/23)	0 (0/14)
12.	West Nusa Tenggara		0 (0/5)				
13.	East Nusa Tenggara	0 (0/12)	17 (1/6)				
14.	East Timor		2 (1/60)				
15.	North Sulawesi		0 (0/3)	0 (0/35)			
16.	Central Sulawesi	0 (0/2)		0 (0/4)			
17.	South Sulawesi		0 (0/10)				
18.	Irian Jaya	20 (7/35)	4 (1/28)	0 (0/145)			

Java, East Kalimantan, East Nusa Tenggara, East Timor and Irian Jaya) presented only *in-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistance to mefloquine (2 - 20 %). Central Java in 1981-1985 and Irian Jaya in 1981-1990 reported mefloquine resistance, but there after no resistance was detected. East Kalimantan reported mefloquine resistance in 1991-1995 and East Nusa Tenggara in 1986-1990 (Table 15).

Halofantrine resistance

Halofantrine, a phenanthrene-methanol, is a relative new antimalarial drug. This drug also has not yet been registered in Indonesia. Since 1991, several *in-vivo* *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* sensitivity tests to this drug have been performed.

Table 16. *In-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistant to mefloquine in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{16,31,34-9,42,45,57,60-2}.

	81 - 85	86 - 90	91 - 95
Number of provinces tested (%)*	10 (37)	13 (37)	6 (22)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	2 - 35	1 - 60	1 - 145
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	2 (20)	3 (23)	1 (17)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	12 - 20	2 - 17	3
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	2 (7)	4 (15)	5 (19)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

Table 17. *In-vivo* *P. falciparum* resistant to mefloquine in Indonesia, 1986 - 1995^{16,62-3}.

	86 - 90	91 - 95
Number of provinces tested (%)*	2 (7)	1 (4)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	19 - 23	14
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	0	0
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	-	-
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	0	0

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

In-vivo sensitivity tests of *P. falciparum* to halofantrine (500 mg 6 hourly with a total dosage of 1500 mg) were performed in East Kalimantan, North Sulawesi and Irian Jaya province with numbers of patients examined 63, 59 and 36 respectively. Of the 3 provinces tested, East Kalimantan and North Sulawesi reported resistant cases of 2 % and 12 % at RI level (Table 18 and Table 19)^{35-6,64}.

In-vivo sensitivity test of *P. vivax* to halofantrine were performed also in North Sulawesi and Irian Jaya province with the numbers of patients examined 44 and 21. RI

resistance (5 %) was found only in North Sulawesi (Table 18 and Table 19)^{36,64-5}.

Artemisinin derivatives recurrence

Artemisinin, a sesquiterpene-lactone-peroxide, is developed from Chinese traditional medicine. This drug and its derivatives (i.e: artesunate and artemether) possess a powerful antimalarial activity and low toxicity. No resistance to this drug has yet been demonstrated. It is not yet commercially available in Indonesia.

Table 18. Percentage of *in-vivo* *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* resistant to halofantrine in Indonesia, 1991 -1995^{35-6,64-5}.

No.	Province	<i>P. falciparum</i> *		<i>P. vivax</i>	
1.	East Kalimantan	2 (1/63)	Balikpapan (1991)		
2.	North Sulawesi	12 (7/59)	Tomohon (1993)	5 (2/44)	Tomohon (1993)
3.	Irian Jaya	0 (0/36)	Arso (1993)	0 (0/21)	Arso (1993)

Table 19. *In-vivo* *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* resistant to halofantrine in Indonesia, 1991 - 1995^{35-6,64-5}.

	<i>P. falciparum</i>	<i>P. vivax</i>
Number of provinces tested (%)*	3 (11)	2 (7)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	36 - 63	21 - 44
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	2 (67)	1 (50)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	2 - 12	5
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	2 (7)	1 (4)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

In-vivo sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* (in uncomplicated falciparum malaria) to artesunate (600 mg in 5 days) was performed in East Kalimantan province. The number of patients examined was 10, with 40 % showing recurrence (late RI pattern) (Table 20 and Table 21)⁶⁶.

In-vivo sensitivity testing of *P. falciparum* (in uncomplicated *in-vitro* chloroquine resistant falciparum malaria) to artemether (480 mg in 5 days) was performed in Irian Jaya province. The number of patients examined was 31, with 10 % showing recurrence (late RI pattern)⁶⁷.

MULTIDRUG RESISTANCE

Falciparum malaria multidrug (more than one drug) resistance to chloroquine and/or sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine and /or quinine cases have been noted since 1979^{26,59}.

During 1991 - 1995, *in-vitro* sensitivity tests of *P. falciparum* to several antimalarial drugs (chloroquine, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine, quinine, amodiaquine and mefloquine) were performed in 4 provinces. The number of isolates tested ranged between 20 and 80 with multidrug resistance found in 84 %, 49 %, 40 %

Table 20. Percentage of *in-vivo* *P. falciparum* recurrent to artemisinin derivatives in Indonesia, 1991 -1995⁶⁶.

No	Province	Artesunate	Artemether
1.	East Kalimantan	40 (4/10), Balikpapan (1993)	
2.	Irian Jaya		10 (3/31), Tembagapura (1994)

Table 21 *In-vivo* *P. falciparum* recurrence to artemisinin derivatives in Indonesia, 1991 - 1995⁶⁶.

	Artesunate	Artemether
Number of provinces tested (%)*	1 (4)	1 (4)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	10	31
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	1 (100)	1 (100)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	40 (RI)	10 (RI)
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	1 (4)	1 (4)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

and 11 % in East Kalimantan, Irian Jaya, North Sulawesi and East Timor, respectively. Combined resistance to chloroquine and sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine were found in all the 4 provinces. Combined resistance to chloroquine and amodiaquine, and to chloroquine, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine and amodiaquine were found in East Kalimantan and East Timor. Combined resistance to chloroquine and quinine, and to sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine and amodiaquine, and to chloroquine and sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine and quinine and amodiaquine and mefloquine were only found in East Kalimantan. Combined resistance to chloroquine and mefloquine was found only in East Timor^{35-7,61} (Table 22 and Table 23).

In 1993, vivax malaria resistance to chloroquine and quinine was reported from a patient who acquired malaria from a blood transfusion in DKI-Jakarta (Table 22)³⁴.

EFFICACY OF SEVERAL NEW ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS FOR TREATMENT

Several clinical trials of new antimalarial drugs (mefloquine, halofantrine and artemisinin derivatives) have been performed for the treatment of falciparum malaria patients and vivax malaria patients in order to prepare alternative antimalarial drugs for possible future use.

Table 22. Percentage of *in-vitro* *P. falciparum* and *in-vivo* *P. vivax* resistant to several (>1) antimalarial drugs in Indonesia, 1991 -1995^{35-7,61}.

No.	Province	<i>P. falciparum</i>		<i>P. vivax</i>
1.	East Kalimantan	84 (59/70)	CQ+SP, CQ+Q, CQ+AQ, AQ+SP, CQ+SP+AQ, CQ+SP+Q+AQ+MQ	
2.	East Timor	11 (9/80)	CQ+SP, CQ+AQ, CQ+MQ, CQ+SP+AQ	
3.	North Sulawesi	40 (8/20)	CQ+SP	
4.	Irian Jaya	49 (25/51)	CQ+SP	
5.	DKI-Jakarta			100 (1/1) CQ+QN

CQ = Chloroquine
 SP = Sulfadoxine-Pyrimethamine
 Q = Quinine
 AQ = Amodiaquine
 MQ = Mefloquine.

Table 23. *In-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistant to several (>1) antimalarial drugs in Indonesia, 1991 - 1995^{35,7,61}.

	<i>P. falciparum</i>
Number of provinces tested (%)*	4 (15)
Number of samples tested per province (range)	20 - 80
Number of provinces reporting resistance (%)**	4 (100)
Percentage of resistant cases (range)	11 - 84
Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance (%)*	4 (15)

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

Mefloquine

At a single oral dose of 750 mg (15 mg base/kg bw) mefloquine with or without sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine was shown to be effective and safe for the treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria resistant chloroquine as well as multidrug resistant cases.

In studies conducted in the border areas of East Kalimantan and Irian Jaya, the parasite clearance rates were 94 - 100 %. Resistance at the level of RII and RIII was found only in Irian Jaya. Fever and parasite clearance times were 9 - 25 hours and 47 - 59 hours, respectively (Table 24)^{32,57,62-3}.

Halofantrine

Halofantrine at 500 mg (salt) 6 hourly for 3 doses was shown to be effective and safe for the treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria resistant to chloroquine as well as for the treatment of vivax malaria cases.

Studies in East Kalimantan, North Sulawesi and Irian Jaya in patients with

uncomplicated falciparum malaria had parasite clearance rates of 88 - 100 %. Resistance at level of late RI was found in East Kalimantan and North Sulawesi. Fever and parasite clearance times were 17 - 30 hours and 52 - 61 hours respectively. In vivax malaria, parasite clearance rates were 95 - 100 %, the fever and parasite clearance times were 22 and 61 hours, respectively (Table 24)^{35-6,64-5,68-9}.

Artesunate

A total dose of 600 mg of artesunate given as 200 mg loading dose followed by 100 mg daily for 4 days was shown to be safe and effective for the treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria in a multidrug resistance area using a 14 day evaluation.

This artesunate trial was performed in East Kalimantan. The parasite clearance rate dropped to 60 % because of recrudescence after 14 days following 100 % clearance at 14 days (late RI pattern) (days 21-28). The fever and parasite clearance times were 14 and 32 hours, respectively (Table 24)⁶⁶.

Table 24. Efficacy of several new antimalarial drugs for uncomplicated malaria in Indonesia, 1991 - 1995^{32,35-6,57,62-9}.

Antimalarial drug	Parasite Clearance Rate (%)	Fever Clearance Time (hours)	Parasite Clearance Time (hours)
<i>Falciparum malaria</i>			
Mefloquine	94 - 100	9 - 25	47 - 59
Halofantrine	88 - 100	17 - 30	52 - 61
Artesunate	60	14	32
Artemether	90	8	29
<i>Vivax malaria</i>			
Halofantrine	95 - 100	22 ± 25	61 ± 22

Artemether

Oral artemether at the total dose of 480 mg given as 160 mg loading dose followed by 80 mg daily for 4 days was shown to be effective and safe for the treatment of uncomplicated *in-vitro* chloroquine resistance falciparum malaria.

A study in Irian Jaya had a parasite clearance rate of 90 % with recrudescence (late RI pattern) (days 21-28). The fever and parasite clearance times were very fast, 8 and 29 hours, respectively (Table 24)⁶⁷.

EFFICACY OF SEVERAL ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS FOR PROPHYLAXIS

Several antimalarial drugs such as chloroquine, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine, primaquine, mefloquine and doxycycline were

studied as prophylactic agents against malaria in 38 - 200 nonimmune transmigrants and soldiers in the hyperendemic areas of eastern Indonesia.

Chloroquine

Chloroquine is still used for malaria chemoprophylaxis in Indonesia. In East Timor and Irian Jaya, chloroquine 5 mg base/kg bw weekly for 6 and 4 months, had protective efficacy of 93 % and 44 % respectively (Table 25)⁷⁰⁻¹.

Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine

Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine is not used for malaria chemoprophylaxis by the malaria control programme in Indonesia. In East Timor, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine 1 tablet weekly for 6 months had a protective efficacy of 98 % (Table 25)⁷⁰.

Table 25. Protective rates of several antimalarial drugs as chemoprophylaxis in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995^{70,71}.

Antimalarial drug	Dosage	Protective rate (%)	Study's site (year)
Chloroquine	5 mg/kg bw/ week	44 - 93 (24/54 - 180/194)	East Timor (83), Irian Jaya (92, 94)
Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine	1 tablet/week	98 (196/200)	East Timor (83)
Primaquine	0.5 mg/kg bw/2d or daily	89 - 92 (40/45 - 35/38)	Irian Jaya (92, 94)
Doxycycline	100 mg/day	99 (66/67)	Irian Jaya (94)
Mefloquine	250 mg/d-3d than 250 mg / week	100 (68/68)	Irian Jaya (94)

Primaquine

Primaquine could be used as a causal malaria prophylactic. However this drug is still not used for malaria chemoprophylaxis in Indonesia. In Irian Jaya, primaquine 0.5 mg base/kg bw every other day or 0.5 mg base/kg bw daily for 16 - 52 weeks had a protective efficacy of 89 % and 92 % respectively (Table 25)^{71,72}.

Mefloquine

Mefloquine is a relatively new antimalarial drug and is not available in Indonesia. In Irian Jaya, mefloquine 250 mg base weekly following a loading dose of 250 mg base daily for 3 days, given for 13 weeks had a protective efficacy of 100 % (Table 25)⁷³.

Doxycycline

In Indonesia, doxycycline is registered as an antibiotic. This drug is not used as an

antimalarial drug by the malaria control programme. In Irian Jaya, doxycycline 100 mg daily for 13 weeks had a protective efficacy of 99 % (Table 25)⁷³.

SIDE-EFFECTS OF ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS

In the many antimalarial drug trials, the medications have usually been well tolerated at the dose given.

Serious side-effects of chloroquine have never been reported. Headache, dizziness, palpitation, itching, epigastric pain, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea had been noted (Table 26)^{36-7,65,70}.

The most important side-effect of sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine is skin reaction (Steven Johnson syndrome). It had been reported from Irian Jaya. Itching, epigastric pain and rash were noted in East Timor (Table 26)⁷⁰.

Table 26. Reported side-effects of several antimalarial drugs in Indonesia, 1991 - 1995^{35-7,63,65-9,70-4}

Side-effects	Chloroquine	Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine	Quinine	Primaquine	Mefloquine	Halofantrine	Artesunate	Artemether
Headache	V			V	V			
Dizziness	V		V		V	V		
Tinnitus			V					
Epistaxis						V		
Rash		V						
Itching	V	V						
Palpitation	V					V		
Epigastric pain	V	V		V				
Nausea	V		V		V	V		
Vomiting	V			V		V		
Diarrhoea	V			V	V	V		
Abdominal pain	V				V	V		V
Insomnia					V			V

Usually quinine is given as a life-saving drug in severe malaria patients. Only dizziness, tinnitus and nausea have been reported (Table 26)⁷⁴.

The side-effects of primaquine when given alone as a chemoprophylactic were headache, epigastric pain, vomiting and diarrhoea (Table 26)⁷¹⁻².

The common side-effects of mefloquine reported were headache, dizziness, abdominal pain, nausea, diarrhoea and insomnia (Table 26)^{63,73}.

Abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea were common side-effects of

halofantrine. Also reported were dizziness, epistaxis and palpitation (Table 26)^{35-6,65,68-9}.

The side-effects of oral and parenteral artemether were abdominal pain and diarrhoea, while no side-effects were noted in oral artesunate (Table 26)^{37,66-7,74}.

DISCUSSION

All the drug sensitivity tests were performed to confirm the *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* resistant to chloroquine and/or other antimalarial drugs presence in Indonesia. These tests were mainly conducted in major foci of suspected chloroquine resistance. No follow up or continuing studies have been carried out.

Therefore findings are limited to these reported cases. However, this evaluation has confirmed resistance to chloroquine, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine, quinine, amodiaquine and to several new antimalarial drugs (mefloquine and halofantrine) by *P. falciparum* (Table 27) and to chloroquine by *P. vivax*.

Many mechanisms theoretically might induce changes in drug sensitivity of *Plasmodium* species, such as : physiological adaptation, selection among mixed sensitive and resistant parasite populations already present, spontaneous mutation and subsequent selection of resistance strains, and introduction of resistance transfer factors or plasmids⁷⁵.

Subtherapeutic dosage is observed to be the most likely cause of increasingly resistant *Plasmodium* species in Indonesia. Subcurative blood levels of drug encourage the survival of tolerant strains of parasites. Evolution toward drug resistance may thereby be facilitated.

This drug pressure has probably contributed heavily to the development of resistance in Indonesia. The first line and the most commonly available antimalarial drug in Indonesia is chloroquine. Chloroquine is retained in mosquito tissues after a blood meal is taken from a chloroquine-treated person. This exerts drug pressure on the sporogonic phase.

Table 27. Cumulative number of province reporting *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* resistant or recurrent to antimalarial drugs in Indonesia, 1981 - 1995.

Antimalarial drug	Cumulative number of provinces tested			Cumulative number of provinces reporting resistance/recurrence			%*	%**
	<i>in-vitro</i>	<i>in-vivo</i>	total	<i>in-vitro</i>	<i>in-vivo</i>	total		
Chloroquine	24	25	27	24	24	27	100	100
Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP)	13	9	14	11	4	11	79	41
Quinine (QN)	12		12	6		6	50	22
Mefloquine (MQ)	18	2	18	5		5	28	19
Amodiaquine (AQ)	5		5	4		4	80	15
CQ+SP, CQ+Q, CQ+AQ, CQ+MQ, SP+AQ, CQ+SP+AQ, CQ+SP+Q+AQ+MQ	4		4	4		4	100	15
Halofantrine		3	3		2	2	67	7
Artesunate		1	1		1	1	100	4
Artemether		1	1		1	1	100	4

* percent by total number of provinces (27)

** percent by number of provinces tested.

Mutation may be one-step or multi-step, where total sensitivity is replaced by RIII resistant in one step or a series of mutations level to successively higher drug resistance levels.

Antimalarial drugs should be distributed properly with one course of treatment per package and with clear information on drug administration to prevent inadequate treatment and to combat drug resistance.

The emergence of chloroquine resistance, the unrelenting spread of RIII resistance and the presence of multidrug resistant falciparum malaria are important reasons to study the efficacy of several new antimalarial drugs. Mefloquine, halofantrine and artemisinin derivatives showed effectiveness and safety for treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria in chloroquine or multidrug resistant areas^{35-6,57,62-9}. However, these drugs are expensive and still not available in Indonesia. This poses a continuing therapeutic challenge to improve the efficacy of drugs currently available by combination of several antimalaria drugs or other drugs such as antibiotics or adjustment of dosages. Additional studies are needed.

Resistance of *P. vivax* to chloroquine is an emerging problem. Even though halofantrine was very effective in treating vivax malaria in *P. vivax* resistant areas⁶⁴⁻⁵, no obvious replacement for chloroquine is presently available in Indonesia. Sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine is not as effective as chloroquine in treating vivax malaria⁷⁶. Quinine suffers from poor compliance and higher doses may be needed to cure the Chesson strain of *P. vivax*⁷⁷. The current time, retreatment of chloroquine resistant *P. vivax* with standard regimen of chloroquine 25 mg base/kg bw for 3 days combined with primaquine 15 mg base daily for 14 days, may be effective. If resistance remains,

repeated treatment with chloroquine 10 mg base/kg bw and primaquine 45 mg base, single dose, weekly for 12 weeks should be applied⁷⁸.

Chloroquine is no longer the drug of choice for both *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* prophylaxis in Irian Jaya due to increasing levels of resistance in that area⁷¹. Occurrence of rare cases of Stevens-Johnson syndrome has limited the usefulness of sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine in prophylaxis⁷⁰. However, although primaquine was shown very effective and safe as a causal prophylactic⁷¹⁻², it is still not recommended because it has not been studied in large numbers of patients. Mefloquine was also shown to be very effective and safe⁷³ but it is expensive and still not available in Indonesia. Doxycycline performs well as a prophylaxis, but there are contraindications for children and pregnant women⁷³. An alternative prophylactic drug which is safe and effective for children, pregnant and lactating women should also be studied, e.g. azithromycin.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Resistance to antimalarial drugs, especially chloroquine, has become a serious problem in case management throughout Indonesia. Appropriate baseline data and monitoring system for drug efficacy and resistance are required for reassessment and revision of national guidelines for malaria treatment.

All studies of resistance of antimalarial drugs using *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* methods in Indonesia, were reviewed to determine the pattern of drug resistant malaria and to use this data to establish an effective monitoring system. Malaria treatment and prophylaxis, field and hospital based studies during the period 1981 to 1995 were included.

Resistance of *P. falciparum* to chloroquine was detected for the first time in East Kalimantan in 1973, and has spread to all (27) provinces at level of RI - RIII. Three provinces (West Java, Central Kalimantan and Bali) reported only *in-vitro* resistance, and 3 other provinces (West Sumatera, South Sumatera and DI-Yogyakarta) reported only *in-vivo* resistance, while in the other 21 provinces *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* resistance were detected. Currently, RIII resistance affects 20 provinces compared to 4 provinces in 1981 - 1985. Chloroquine resistant vivax malaria has been detected since 1991 in Irian Jaya (41%), North Sumatera (13%), East Nusa Tenggara (8%), North Sulawesi (2%) and Jakarta (one case acquired by blood transfusion).

The total number of provinces reporting *P. falciparum* resistance to sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine is 11 out of the 14 provinces undertaking testing. Seven provinces have only reported resistance by *in-vitro* test and the other 4 provinces reported resistance by both *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* test at level of RI - RII. Of the 3 provinces reporting no resistance, 2 provinces (Bengkulu and DKI-Jakarta) only conducted the *in-vitro* sensitivity test and 1 province (Southeast Sulawesi) only the *in-vivo* sensitivity test.

Of the 12 provinces tested, only 6 provinces (West Java, Central Java, East Kalimantan, East Nusa Tenggara, Central Sulawesi and Irian Jaya) show *in-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistance to quinine with resistant cases ranging from 3 to 100 %. After 1981-1985, 3 provinces that had reported resistance (West Java, Central Java and Irian Jaya) did not report any for the resistant cases. In East Kalimantan where no resistance was present in 1986-1990, *in-vitro* resistance was reported in 1991-1995.

Of the 5 provinces tested, 4 provinces (East Kalimantan, East Timor, South Sulawesi and Irian Jaya) had resistance to amodiaquine (12 - 100 %). Previously (1981-1985), no amodiaquine resistance was found in Irian Jaya.

Of the 18 provinces tested, 5 provinces (Central Java, East Kalimantan, East Nusa Tenggara, East Timor and Irian Jaya) presented only *in-vitro* *P. falciparum* resistance to mefloquine (2 - 20 %). Central Java in 1981-1985 and Irian Jaya in 1981-1990 reported mefloquine resistance, but thereafter no resistance was detected, while East Nusa Tenggara reported mefloquine resistance in 1986-1990 and East Kalimantan in 1991-1995.

In-vitro *P. falciparum* multidrug resistance was found respectively in 84 %, 49 %, 40 % and 11 % of cases in East Kalimantan, Irian Jaya, North Sulawesi and East Timor. Resistance to chloroquine and sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine was found in all 4 provinces. Resistance to chloroquine and amodiaquine, and to chloroquine and sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine and amodiaquine were found in East Kalimantan and East Timor. Resistance to chloroquine and quinine, to sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine and amodiaquine, to chloroquine and sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine and quinine and amodiaquine and mefloquine were only found in East Kalimantan. Resistance to chloroquine and mefloquine was found only in East Timor

At a single oral dose of 750 mg (15 mg base/kg bw) mefloquine with or without sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine for the treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria resulted in parasite clearance rates of 94 - 100 % in several studies in border areas of East Kalimantan and Irian Jaya. Resistance at level of RII and RIII were found in Irian Jaya. Fever and parasite clearance times were 9 - 25 hours and 47 - 59 hours, respectively.

Halofantrine at 500 mg (salt) 6 hourly for 3 doses for the treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria in East Kalimantan, North Sulawesi and Irian Jaya had parasite clearance rates of 88 - 100 %. Resistances at level of late RI were found in East Kalimantan and North Sulawesi. Fever and parasite clearance times were 17 - 30 hours and 52 - 61 hours, respectively. In vivax malaria, parasite clearance rates were 95 - 100 %, the fever and parasite clearance times were 22 and 61 hours, respectively.

A total dose of 600 mg of artesunate given as 200 mg loading dose followed by 100 mg daily for 4 days for the treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria in East Kalimantan, had parasite clearance rate 60 % with recrudescence (late RI pattern) on day 21-28. The fever and parasite clearance times were 14 and 32 hours, respectively.

Oral artemether at the total dose of 480 mg given as 160 mg loading dose with subsequent 80 mg daily for 4 days for the treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria in Irian Jaya, had parasite clearance rate of 90 % with recrudescence (late RI pattern) on day 21-28. The fever and parasite clearance times were very fast, 8 and 29 hours, respectively.

Studies on prophylaxis showed protection rates of respectively 41 % and 93 % to chloroquine in Irian Jaya and East Timor, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine 98% in East Timor, primaquine 89-92% and doxycycline 99% and mefloquine 100% in Irian Jaya.

The side-effects of those antimalarial drugs were mostly mild.

This evaluation confirms the existence of drug resistant *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* in Indonesia. The unrelenting spread of RIII level

resistance to chloroquine of falciparum malaria and the presence of multidrug resistant falciparum malaria are serious public health problems and pose a continuing therapeutic challenge. Chloroquine resistant vivax malaria is a newly emerging problem. The antimalarial drugs should be distributed properly for one course of treatment per package with clear information on drug administration to prevent inadequate treatment and combat drug resistance. Since new antimalarials are not available yet in Indonesia, the efficacy of drugs currently available (chloroquine, sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine, quinine and primaquine) should be studied, for example, in combination. Alternative prophylactic drugs (e.g. azithromycin) which are safe and effective for children, pregnant and lactating women should also be considered.

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